GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1121
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2007
TSUNAMI WARNING CENTRES
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar;Rajendran Shri P.

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed Interim Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System at Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, has been set up and has become operational;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of pressure recorders installed in the Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean;

(d) whether nearly 75 earthquakes occurred over the Indian peninsula since the last Tsunami;

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) and (b) Yes Sir. An Early Warning System for Tsunami in Indian Ocean has been set-up at the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, and was dedicated to the nation on 15 October 2007. An interim early warning mechanism was in operational at INCOIS, Hyderabad on 24x7 basis prior to 15 October 2007. The Early Warning System is based on collection of near real time seismic signals for monitoring earthquakes capable of generating tsunamis, observing real time changes in the sea level and validating propagation of tsunami waves, if any, to generate alert and warning advisories for tsunami.

(c) At present four Bottom Pressure Recorders (BPRs) are installed in Bay of Bengal and two in the Arabian Sea.

(d) & (e) Yes Sir. Seventy - seven significant earthquakes were observed by the seismological network of India Meteorological Department over the Indian peninsula region covering latitudes 8o to 24o North and longitude 68o to 90o East since December, 2004. Of these three earthquakes were of magnitude 5 and above and seventy four of magnitude between 3.5 and 4.9.